Group Art Unit: n/a Examiner: n/a

## EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: ER 224689660 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mark Christopher Hope

Serial No.: n/a

Filed: Contemporaneous Herewith Entitled: Improvements in Dry Pumps

Atty. Dkt.: M02B156

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B "Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant." A copy of each non-US patent document is enclosed.

Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

The BOO Group, Inc.

The BOC Group, Inc.

Legal Services - Intellectual Property

575 Mountain Avenue Murray Hill, NJ 07974

(908) 771-6469

Attachments
Forms PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B
Cited References

PVN:bil

Very truly yours,

Ira Lee Zebrak

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 31,147

10/532275 JC13 Rec'd 1/PTO 21 APR 2005



EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL:

ER 224689660 US

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Application Number.

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Sheet 1

| Complete if Known      |              |   |
|------------------------|--------------|---|
| Application Number     |              |   |
| Filing Date            |              | • |
| First Named Inventor   | Mark C. Hope |   |
| Art Unit               |              |   |
| Examiner Name          |              |   |
| Attorney Docket Number | M02R156      |   |

| Examiner  | Cite | Document Number                         | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or         | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where                    |
|-----------|------|---|------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Initials* | No.1 | Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (# known)</sup> | MM-DD-YYYY       | Applicant of Cited Document | Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|           | 1    | <sup>US-</sup> 5 713 724                | 02-03-1998       | Centers et al.              |   |
|           | 2    | <sup>US-</sup> 6 116 032                | 09-12-2000       | Mori et al.                 |   |
|           | 3    | <sup>US-</sup> 6 274 507 B1             | 08-14-2001       | Narita et al.               |   |
|           | 4    | <sup>US-</sup> 5 443 644                | 08-22-1995       | Ozawa                       |   |
|           |      | US-                                     |                  |                             |   |
|           | -    | US-                                     |                  |                             |   |
|           |      | US-                                     | 1                |                             |   |

|                    |              | FORE  | IGN PATENT DOCL     | IMENTS   |   |          |
|--------------------|--------------|---|---------------------|--|---|----------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages |          |
|                    |              | Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY          |  | Or Relevant Figures Appear                        | T°       |
|                    | 5            | EP 0 594 461 A1   | 04-27-1994          | BOC Group plc                                      | ,   |          |
|                    | 6            | EP 0 476 631 A1   | 03-25-1992          | Ebara Corp.  |   |          |
|                    | 7            | EP 1 120 814 A2   | 08-01-2001          | Applied Materia                                    |   | <u></u>  |
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| Examiner  | Date       |  |
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| Substitute for form 1443/F TO  | Application Number  |              |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE   | Filing Date   |              |  |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT   | First Named Inventor  | Mark C. Hope |  |
|  | Art Unit  |              |  |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary)  | Examiner Name   |              |  |
| Sheet 2 of 2   | Attorney Docket Number  | M02B156      |  |

|                       |                          | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS   |    |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T² |
|                       | 8                        | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 2002, no. 04, August 4, 2002; abstract of JP 2001 342950 A, Norihiko Nomura, "Vacuum Dry Pump and Trapping Method," (Ebara Corp.), 12-14-2001   |    |
|                       | 9                        | United Kingdom Search Report for Application No: GB 0224709.6; Date of Search: April 24, 2003   |    |
|                       | 10                       | PCT International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/GB 2003/004091; Date of mailing December 17, 2003  |    |
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